

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2010

Present: Alexis Devine, Andrew Tyska, Betty Pleacher, Bob Cooper, Carmen Ferguson, Cynthia Farrell, Deborah Anthes, Evaristo Amaral, Fred Ricci, Joseph DiPina, Joseph Oaks, James White, Michael Cassidy, Pat Talin, Paul Harden, Paul Ouellette, Phil Stone, Ray Pingitore, Scott Seaback, Steve Kitchin, Steve Wilson, Sue Chomka, Vanessa Cooley, Wendy Kagan

Staff and guests: Christine Grieco, Mavis McGetrick, Shirley Winslow, Gail DuPont, Carlos Ribeiro, Janice Lepizzera, Jo-Anne Thibedeau, Kathy Tobin-Henry, Pam Blais, Sherri Carello, Kara Aniballi, Cristin Grenier and Sharon Alexander

Absent: Allen Durand, Courtney Murphy, Darrell Waldron, Diane Cook, Dorothy Mattiello, Joseph DeSantis, Kathleen Grygiel, Nancy Roderick, Peter Koch, Raymond Filippone, Susan O'Donnell

With a quorum present, Chair Steve Kitchin called the meeting to order at 8:10 am. Mr. Kitchin asked everyone to review the minutes from the previous meeting of January 12, 2010.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motion to accept the minutes with the amendment. Seconded by Ray Pingitore. The motion passed

unanimously.

Chairman's Report:

Mr. Kitchin introduced the two new staff members, Pam Blais and Cristin Grenier. He introduced the guest from the Rhode Island Indian Council, Sharon Alexander.

Mr. Kitchin attended a workshop on January 26, 2010 for the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce conducted by Jen Buck explaining what resources were available from the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island for the business community.

Mr. Kitchin attended an all day workshop for Advancing the Green Economy, Summit #2. Basically this was a road map for the green economy presented on February 9, 2010 by the Economic Development Corporation. More information can be found on the EDC website.

Mr. Kitchin was elected Chair of the Rhode Island Green council. If for any reason that may come up at any of the Board or Committee meetings he will recuse himself.

Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Ouellette attended on February 25, 2010 a summit "Pathways to Independence" on self employment.

Mr. Kitchin asked if the Chairs of all the committees put into place a

Vice Chair.

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Greico

reports on the PY2009/FY2010 WIA Plan Modification 2. We are in receipt of \$201,096.00 from the Harkins grant. These are funds were not spent nation wide and have been added to the budget. The budget has been adjusted. The funds are strictly for adult dislocated workers. I am asking for a vote to add the dollars into the budget.

VOTE: Ms. Coley motion to accept the added dollars to PY2009/FY2010 WIA Plan Modification 2. Ms. Pleacher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Grieco discussed the Department of Human Services Temporary Aid to Needy Families (DHS TANF) dollars. DHS asked DLT Director if DLT and the two WIBs could partner with DHS to implement this program. These dollars are to be used as subsidy for employee wages.

Committee Reports:

Board Development: Mr. Ouellette will send a letter of thanks to Johan Uvin.

The Governor has appointed Deborah Anthes from the Department of

Education

as Johan Uvin's replacement on the Board of Directors.

A letter of resignation has been received from Joseph DeSantis. Mr. DeSantis has sent a recommendation letter that David Banno replace him on the Youth Council.

VOTE: Mr. Ouellette motion to appoint David Banno on the Youth council. Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: Mr. Ouellette motion to appoint Deborah Anthes to the Youth Council. Ms. Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Phil Stone will be the guest speaker at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island has purchased for the Board of Directors the DVD "2 Million Minutes". It is planned to view the DVD at the end of a short board meeting.

Strategic Development: Mr. Harden discussed the OJT (On the Job Training). This program works with employers. The employer notifies NetworkRI when they have an open position. The employer is entitled up to 50% of the employees wages for 6 months. The

program is underused. There needs to be more marketing.

ISDI update: Inquire with the 2 industry partners (Tech Collective: IT and Biosciences and My Turn: Marine Trades) where they stand and ask them to make a presentation at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Youth Council:

Chair Steve Kitchen recused himself; he turned the gavel over to Vice Chair Mr. Ouellette.

Ms. Farrell informed the Board of Directors the Youth Council was informed by the State after an RFP for WIA and JDF was issued. There were 46 proposals before the funds had been cut from 1.2 million to \$250,000.00? This meant there were no JDF funds. The \$250,000.00 would be divided among 5 Youth Centers.